

## BOOK REVIEW

*A Catalogue of the Original Descriptions of Rhopalocera Found North of the Mexican Border.* Edited by F. Martin Brown. *Part I—Hesperioidea*, by E. L. Bell, October 4, 1938. Bulletin of the Cheyenne Mountain Museum, Colorado Springs, Colorado. Vol. 1, No. 1. Price 50 cents.

This, the initial publication of the Cheyenne Mountain Museum, is a happy augury for the future of that institution. Since the Supplement to Skinner's Catalog in 1904 there have been no generally available bibliographic publications on the whole Butterfly fauna of North America, and in view of the enormous increase in the number of names that has occurred since that date, the series of which the present work is the beginning will fill a very great need. All names applied to North American Butterflies are included, with statements of the type localities and references to the original descriptions. References to the original descriptions of the genera are given; and the genotypes are listed. Unfortunately no other generic synonymy has been included.

Synonyms and aberrations are rightly classed together as invalid names; but these should be printed in italics rather than in capitals. Subspecies (race) names have been indented properly under the species names, but it would be better to prefix "(a)," "(b)," etc., to these, as is usually done in such lists. Most annoying to workers is the use of abbreviated and incomplete bibliographic references. In this respect the present work is better than many; but there is room for improvement. To the specialist such references as "Bull. Buff. Soc. Nat. Hist.," "Jahrb. nass Ver.," "Contrib.," "Verh. z.-b. Ges. Wein. (sic)," etc., may be intelligible; but to the majority of users of a work such as this they are a source of worry. I personally believe that all bibliographic references should be given without abbreviation; and that in separate publications the name of the publisher and the place of publication should always be included. It would also be better if the volume numbers were printed in bold-face type.

The above criticisms deal with comparatively minor points, however, and merely represent the eternal tendency of the human mind to strive for an unattainable perfection.

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